

# The University of Chicago

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Department of Bacteriology and Parasitology  
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August 7, 1948

Dr. Joshua Lederberg,  
Department of Genetics,  
University of Wisconsin,  
Madison 6, Wisconsin.

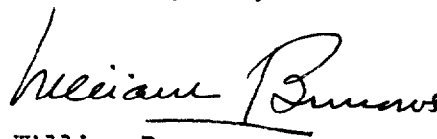
Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Many thanks for your letter of July 31. I am sorry to seem so long in acknowledging it; it was forwarded to me and I suppose there was some delay en route.

I am sorry to hear that the results of your recombination experiments have been negative to date. I suppose a certain amount of that sort of thing is to be expected on the basis of lack of cross fertility if nothing else. I would expect too that any positive results of antigenic recombination between "species" would be a very long shot. Mrs. Koshland's work is as yet in a highly preliminary stage but I was pleased to find when I was back in Chicago for a few days a couple of weeks ago that she had become convinced that it is a long shot and she is getting some other preliminary studies under way so that she will have something else to turn to. If anything should develop we should, of course, let you know at once. I hope you have no objection to my sending your letter on to her.

With thanks and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

  
William Burrows